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custom to the succession to fiefs, and by claiming the right of "marriage" and reserving criminal jurisdiction and coinage to himself, gave the monarchy a predominance, as against the feudal classes, which was essentially an extension of the recognised rights of the feudal suzerain in the north.

In the strict sense there was no feudalism in Apulia when the Normans entered on the scene; they introduced the system into South-Eastern Italy, but there as in all the kingdom the features of military land-tenure were modified and checked by the growth of royal power on the one hand and the persistence of local liberties on the other.

The Norman element remained a feudal or ecclesiastical one. A few of the 'men-at-arms' joined the numerous class of freeholders and *servientes*; and some craftsmen of French origin found admission into the towns; but in the main the rural and the urban population remained uninfluenced by them. As an aristocratic caste, it was inevitable that the Normans of the mainland should soon mingle with the older ruling race; it does not seem that they brought many women with them, and Rainulf and the sons of Tancred

set the example, generally followed, of marriage alliances with the Lombard nobility. The "Catalogue of the Barons," drawn up under William II. gives us a list of the feudatories of the Terra di Lavoro; the names are overwhelmingly Norman, but this fact need not imply that